# Blackpool parents alarmed as baby abduction attempt highlights rising child safety concerns



Recent events in Blackpool, a renowned seaside resort on the Lancashire coast, have raised alarm among residents and parents following a reported attempted abduction of a baby. On Saturday night, a woman allegedly approached a baby in a pram on Central Drive, near the Coral Island arcade, and attempted to take the pram away. Swift action from bystanders and the baby's parent ensured that the child remained unharmed. In response to the incident, the authorities charged 51-year-old Nicolette Goldrick with child abduction and assault on police. Goldrick has been remanded in custody and is awaiting a court appearance at Lancaster Magistrates Court.

Local officials have described this incident as an "isolated occurrence." Chief Inspector John Jennings-Wharton has attempted to reassure the community by stressing that the police are not looking for anyone else in connection with the case. "I know this incident has understandably caused the community a great deal of concern," he remarked, acknowledging the diligent efforts of the investigation team in addressing the situation.

This incident is not an isolated one; Blackpool has experienced a troubling pattern of similar cases in recent years. In a separate distressing episode, an 11-month-old baby girl was discovered alone in an upturned pram in Watson Road Park, a scenario that highlights the ongoing concerns surrounding child safety. The baby was found by a passer-by and was reported to be safe, but the incident prompted police to arrest the 43-year-old mother on suspicion of child neglect. Such events underscore the critical need for vigilance in protecting children in public spaces.

On another occasion, an attempted child abduction involving a three-year-old girl occurred on a busy street in Blackpool, where a couple tried to lead the child away before her grandmother intervened. Similar incidents have been reported in the region, leading to arrests and increased scrutiny over child safety measures. These alarming patterns stress the importance of community awareness and intervention in safeguarding vulnerable children.

Moreover, the case of Julie Gill, who was sentenced to 12 months in prison after abandoning her child in a park, further illustrates the dangers present in the area. Gill had left her 11-month-old daughter strapped into an upturned pram for hours while she engaged in heavy drinking. The child was found in a perilous state, leading to public outrage and discussions about child welfare enforcement.

While the recent attempted abduction has rocked the community, Blackpool remains a popular destination for families and holidaymakers. However, these incidents reflect an urgent need for robust protective measures and community involvement. The local police continue to urge the public to remain alert and report any suspicious behaviour, reinforcing the idea that safety is a collective responsibility.

As the town navigates through these unsettling events, the hope is for increased awareness and safety measures to ensure all families can enjoy time on the promenade without fear. The police's commitment to investigating these matters and engaging with the community is essential in restoring peace of mind to those who call Blackpool home.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3
2. Paragraph 4
3. Paragraph 5
4. Paragraphs 6, 7
5. Paragraph 8

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2053727/horror-famous-uk-seaside-town-baby-pram> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-36885041> - A woman was arrested on suspicion of child neglect after an 11-month-old baby girl was found in an upturned pram in Watson Road Park, Blackpool. The baby was discovered by a passer-by at approximately 7:00 am on a Sunday morning. The 43-year-old woman from Blackpool was arrested and bailed pending further inquiries. The baby was checked over and was reported to be 'safe and well'.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-lancashire-19499603> - A man and a woman were arrested on suspicion of attempted child abduction after a three-year-old girl was almost snatched from a busy Blackpool street. The incident occurred outside The Salad Bowl shop on Topping Street, where the couple tried to lead the girl away before her grandmother intervened. The 18-year-old woman and 22-year-old man from Blackpool were arrested and remained in police custody.
4. <https://www.blackpoolgazette.co.uk/news/woman-jailed-after-abandoning-baby-in-upturned-pram-in-park-1181868> - Julie Gill, 44, was jailed for 12 months after abandoning an 11-month-old baby in an upturned pram in Watson Road Park, Blackpool. The baby was found strapped into the buggy, face down in the dirt, by a man walking his dog at around 7:30 am on July 24. Gill had been drinking heavily and had no recollection of leaving the baby in the park. The judge stated that the child could have died due to the abandonment.
5. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-lancashire-37929601> - Julie Gill, 44, from Blackpool, was jailed for 12 months after abandoning an 11-month-old baby girl in Watson Road Park following a drunken night out. The baby was found strapped into an upturned pram, face down in the dirt, by a dog walker at 7:00 am. Gill had been drinking heavily and had no recollection of leaving the child in the park. The judge emphasized the potential danger the child faced during the abandonment.
6. <https://metro.co.uk/2016/10/12/mum-left-baby-in-park-for-seven-hours-while-she-went-on-night-out-6189002/> - Julie Gill, 43, left her 11-month-old daughter strapped into an upturned pram in a Blackpool park for seven and a half hours while she went on a drinking spree. The baby was discovered the next morning by a dog walker. Gill pleaded guilty to child neglect and ill treatment. The incident led to the child being taken into social care, and sentencing was deferred to Crown Court.
7. <https://www.blackpoolgazette.co.uk/news/crime/mums-horror-after-man-grabs-her-baby-out-of-its-pram-outside-tesco-3657097> - A police investigation was launched after a man took a 20-month-old baby out of its pram while the mother was distracted at a cash machine near Tesco Express in Heysham. The mother screamed, grabbed back the child, and the man fled the scene. The incident occurred at around 6:30 pm on April 13. The baby was unharmed, and detectives are appealing for information from the public.